

SILC MINUTES
Thursday, May 2nd, 2013

Call to Order: Rod called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm

Roll Call: Members Present: Emma Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Sandra Koffler, Larry Thiele, Trevor Vannett, Rod Gillund, Nate Aalgaard, Scott Burlingame, Peter Yung, Melvin Erdmann, Diane Siekaniec, and Jen Schill.

Members Absent: Jamie Hall and Joan Ehrhardt

Others Present: Russ Cusack, DSU; Helen Baumgartner, DSU; Royce Schultze, CIL Director, Randy Sorenson, CIL Director and LaRae Gustufson, CIL

Approval of Minutes: Corrections to the February minutes were made to include a motion made by Melvin to have public meetings on the SPIL in Wahpeton and Devils Lake rather than Randy making the motion. In the March 15th minutes, add Nate Aalgaard to those in attendance. Scott made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Emma. Motion passed.

Correspondence: Rod received an email from LaRae on SILC orientation to IL History. It was passed around for members to determine whether they want to attend.

Rod also received a phone call from Scott Cooper, Kensington, CA, to visit CILs in all states. He wants to come to ND in July or August for about 2 weeks. He is working on putting together an oral history of disability. Royce remembers there is a cost per center. The council agreed it is a great idea, but there is not funding in the budget to do this at this time. He was here 5 years ago, but it was free at the time.

Committee Breakout Meetings: Committees met for one hour and 45 minutes.

SILC Budget: Dennis reported the Internal Affairs Committee recommendation to continue to meet quarterly, once a year in each quadrant of the state. The recommended budget totaled \$56,483 per biennium. Dennis made a motion to approve the Internal Affairs Committee recommendations, seconded by Melvin. Nate asked where the funding would come from to fund the SILC. Russ intends to fund the SILC with VR basic support funds and all the Part B funds will go to the centers. Motion passed.

Public Forums: Jen reported on the Wahpeton Public Comments Forum – Attached
LaRae reported on the Devils Lake Public Comments Forum– Attached

Committee Reports: External Affairs: Scott reported on the activities the committee would like to act on as they relate to the next SPIL. For Goal 2 - invite representatives from the 121 Programs to our meeting or go to the reservations for our meetings in the future to talk to people in those areas about people with disabilities. Transportation – in Minot the Transit system had an ADA meeting/public hearing. When meetings like this are scheduled, we need to make sure a SILC member attends and reports to the SILC. For Goal 3 - Website – will be under the State Department website. Centers can put a link on their centers website to link to the SILC. Patty will be monitoring how many people visit the website and know where they visit on the site. Underserved populations – the 0 – 6 population has traditionally not been served. The committee would like to invite Daneen Feist to present to the SILC to speak. We do have brochures and fact sheets which the centers will start handing out when they have booths at events.

Scott gave a Legislative update – HB1012 passed so IL will get an additional \$800,000. Autism support passed - HB1013. Governor's Committee on Employment passed with \$37,000 in funding. QSPs and CNAs were combined in a pool; they received \$1.00 increase plus 3%. With new healthcare coming up, many companies will be in jeopardy as they will be required to provide health insurance. Medicaid Expansion was approved. Maggie Anderson has been appointed Executive

Director of the Department of Human Services. There is a report out that SSDI will be bankrupt by 2015. Claims have doubled in the last 10 years.

SILC Budget Update: Since Peter would not be in attendance tomorrow, he presented the SILC budget report. He asked how the SILC prefers to pay for the balance of the present meeting as there is not sufficient funds in our current budget. Nate made the motion, seconded by Scott, to use unobligated funds to pay the costs of this meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05.

Friday, May 3rd, 2013

Call to Order: Rod called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Roll Call: Members Present: Emma Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Sandra Koffler, Larry Thiele, Trevor Vannett, Rod Gillund, Nate Aalgaard, Scott Burlingame, Melvin Erdmann, Diane Siekaniec, and Jen Schill.

Members Absent: Jamie Hall, Peter Yung and Joan Ehrhardt

Others Present: Russ Cusack, DSU; Helen Baumgartner, DSU; Royce Schultze, CIL Director, Randy Sorenson, CIL Director and LaRae Gustufson, CIL

Guest: Erin Steinhouse, an Intern with the ARC, attended the meeting with Jen.

Peer Mentoring: Justin Kietzman, Peer Mentoring Specialist from Freedom Resource Center presented on Peer Mentoring and the process he uses to match peer mentors with consumers. Since January, he has made 71 matches. These matches include anything and everything from matching people who have lost a child, to felons, to people with autism and much, much more. Both the Peer Mentors and the Peer Mentees benefit so much from the match. They meet as they have time and as needed. This has become a very successful program for Freedom. Justin also stressed the importance of thanking people for what they do and recognizing them for the small things they contribute. He ended by giving each SILC member a Thank You card and a Freedom pen. The presentation was very motivating and well done.

Director's Reports:

Randy: See Attached report

Royce: DCIL received a grant from the Department of Human Services to provide social and recreation programs to people with TBI. This will run through June 30, 2013. Diana Medicine Stone will be retiring June 30 after 29 years of service. Tracy Schagunn was hired as the Dickinson Branch Office Manager. DCIL had a booth for TBI Day at the Capital. Staff is finding it difficult to secure affordable housing for MFP transitions. Staff did visitability presentations to three high school carpentry classes. Our new website should be up and running within a week. The Social Security Administration did training for staff on applying for benefits online and other features that are available on their website. Staff did a presentation on DCIL services and MFP to local hospital social workers.

Nate: See Attached

Scott: Quick reminder for the SILC that all CIL's are independent organizations that are ran by private boards of directors. Because of that, the reports that are provided will differ, however, these Director reports are a great tool for all of us to learn about the amazing things that are being done in Independent Living. On that note, I decided to give an update on some of the programing I promised during my interview for the position two and a half years ago. I promoted these programs as ways to be good stewards of the tax payers' dollars. In doing that, we strive very hard to provide services that give us the most "bang for the buck", that being services that allow us to serve the most consumers, having the highest impact, and doing our best to advance Independent Living in our service area.

The first part of that were our services to youth. We do this because we hope that if we can set up transition age youth for success, we will not have to provide them with services as adults. By enhancing the services they get in school and from their parents, our hope is that we can teach them the self-acceptance and self-determination to become successful adults with disabilities. This year, despite not having a Youth Transition Specialist until December, we have been in 5 schools throughout our service area and have provided services to about 120 students.

Next, was our group IL Skills classes. Group IL skills classes allow us to serve multiple people, in a limited amount of time. It also creates a dual benefit of creating a social opportunity for the participants. IL Skills class's attendance tends to vary depending on the Weather, and we are hoping for some great attendance at our summer classes.

We also remain committed to our Nursing Facility transition. This is one of the original purposes of CIL's, and we are committed to helping people with disabilities return to living in the community. However, we have discovered that this is extraordinarily difficult in our service area for a variety of reasons. We have had to work hard on changing "hearts and minds" in an effort to promote home and community based services. As of late we have been doing outreach to communities of faith. Finally, we work very hard to do a lot of outreach. We believe that many people who need our services have never heard of us. So with that, we work hard to connect with people who may need our services. On that note, we have been joined by Rhonda Thompson who will serve as our Community Relations Specialist, and will be responsible for Outreach, Community Education, and Systems Advocacy.

SRC Report: Rod reported that the SRC is working on membership. They are down several members and are looking for people to fill open positions. The committees are evaluating their current duties and may combine some committees as the SILC has done. Russ updated the SRC on the Order of Selection. Lynn Derman gave a Legislative update.

Internal Affairs: Dennis informed the council that the committee got together and worked on the budget and also completed all the sections it was responsible for in the SPIL via a conference call. Since the budget was discussed and voted on, there was nothing further to report.

Governance Committee: Royce reported he received an application from the Grand Forks area from Dr. Erik Williamson. He went over the information on the application with the council. Trevor made a motion, seconded by Melvin that we recommend the applicant to the Governor's Office. Motion passed. There is one open position left on the council to fill in the Minot area. A suggestion for training in July was made to have a representative from DVR speak to the council on the Order of Selection process and the services provided by VR.

State Plan Progress: Dennis reported that the public comment forums were held in Wahpeton and Devils Lake – completing that objective on our grid. Scott updated us on the actions of the Legislature, so that objective is also complete. This completes the goals and objectives for the 2011 – 2013 SPIL. CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

End of Year Report: Rod gave the following report summarizing his term as President. When I think back to my earlier period on the ND Statewide Independent Living Council, I remember confusion, uncertainty of role of its members, which led to apathy; I felt it, too. Members wanted to do well, but were unsure of what to do and how to do it. Nate Aalgaard, as well as others on the council, listened to that quandary and secured a grant to provide an intensive inservice to the entire council. Liz Pazdral from California spent sessions with the group, during which she helped to form a concise goal, define and refine the committee structure as well as to reduce the number of committees. Ms.

Pazdral offered support and follow-up for an entire year. It became obvious to me that members of the Council profited from her efforts because they became much more aware of, and comfortable with, their more precisely defined role within the organization. It is because of that refined role that committees now complete much of their work before the quarterly SILC meetings, and require less time during meetings to clarify issues. As a result, the quality of committee work has improved immensely. There appears to be much closer personal relations among the group, which has led to improvement in responsiveness and trust during the meetings and much better attendance. Our contact person from Vocational Rehabilitation, Helen Baumgartner, has been our stability anchor, keeping us "on target". The supportive attendance and guidance of Russ Cusack, has had a positive effect on the SILC as well. The successes of the North Dakota Statewide Independent Living Council have been based on the work of individual members of the organization, who may disagree on some issues, which is healthy, but they have done so in a civil, caring manner. I believe ND SILC has "found its way", thanks to the inservice provided; its revised application, which improved clarity of roles; and its members, whose goal it has been to improve services to consumers, which has been realized. There is ownership of responsibility among its members at this point in time.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Rod announced the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer were open for nominations.

Rod called for nominations for President. Scott nominated Dennis. Rod called for additional nominations. A third call was made for additional nominations. Melvin made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Dennis, seconded by Emma. Motion passed.

Rod called for nominations for Vice President. Dennis nominated Diane. . Rod called for additional nominations. A third call was made for additional nominations. Dennis made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Diane, seconded by Larry. Motion passed.

Rod called for nominations for Secretary. Melvin nominated Emma. Rod called for additional nominations. A third call was made for additional nominations. Melvin made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Emma, seconded by Nate. Motion passed.

Rod called for nominations for Treasurer. Dennis nominated Melvin. Rod called for additional nominations. A third call was made for additional nominations. Emma made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Melvin, seconded by Diane. Motion passed.

Meeting dates: Dennis proposed the dates for the meetings for the upcoming year with their locations.

July 24th – 25th – Bismarck – this meeting has been scheduled already. On July 24th the SILC will meet from 1:00 – 5:00. On July 25th, the SILC will meet with the SRC in the morning. In the afternoon there is a Robert's Rules of Order Training from 1:00 – 3:00.

November – 14th – 15th – Spirit Lake

February 20th – 21st – Fargo

May 8th – 9th – Minot

Dennis requested that everyone come to the next meeting with an idea of how the SILC can improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13.

Internal Affairs Breakout Minutes: Dennis handed out three budget proposals that he and Royce worked on together to project the costs of funding the SILC with different scenarios. Two budgets projected costs if the meetings were moved around the state and one if one meeting was out of Bismarck and three in Bismarck. Trevor made a motion to use a budget where we go around the

state for meetings, seconded by Melvin. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of moving around the state and having three meetings in Bismarck. Motion passed. Trevor moved to approve the budget of \$56,483 funding 16 people per SILC meeting, seconded by Melvin. Motion passed. It was recommended that there be a line item of "Accommodations" and a narrative including PCAs, interpreters, large print, braille and readers be included in this line item. Randy recommended the SILC adopt a spreadsheet showing a payment process showing which funds are being used to reimburse a center for their reimbursement requests.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.